

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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R 312228Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 020851 SENT ACTION MOGADISCIO INFO
NAIROBI DATED 29 JANUARY 1975:

QTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US., SO

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION OF SOMALI SHIPS

NAIROBI FOR REDSO

1. SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU CALLED ON ACTING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY MULCAHY JANUARY 28 TO PRESENT NOTE INFORMING
DEPARTMENT THAT GSDR HAS "PUT TO AN END THE PRACTICE
OF REGISTERING FOREIGN SHIPS WHICH HAVE USED THE SOMALI
FLAGS FOR PURPOSES BEYOND GOVERNMENT CONTROL." NOTE CON-
TINUES: "SOMALI GOVERNMENT HAS ARRIVED THAT DECISION (SIC)
AFTER CAREFUL EXAMINATION, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE UNDER-
STANDING REACHED DURING THE SUCCESSFUL MEETING OF THE TWO
PRESIDENTS IN WASHINGTON LAST OCTOBER." SPECIFIC SHIPS

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AND NATURE OF "PURPOSE BEYOND GOVERNMENT CONTROL" NOT

SPECIFIED BUT UNDERSTOOD TO REFER TO FRENCH-OWNED SHIPS TRADING WITH NORTH VIETNAM. ADDOU ENTHUSIASTICALLY DESCRIBED THIS ACTION AS "A MILESTONE" WHICH HAD REMOVED "THE LAST OBSTACLE" TO IMPROVEMENT OF US-SOMALI RELATIONS. WHILE HE MADE NO SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, IT WAS CLEAR ADDOU EXPECTED THAT THIS WOULD FOLLOW IN WAKE OF SHIP DEREGISTRATION.

2. WHILE AGREEING THAT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE SOMALIS WAS A SIGNIFICANT ONE IN TERMS OF U.S.-SOMALI RELATIONS, MULCAHY POINTED OUT THAT ONE LESS SERIOUS OBSTACLE REMAINED; I.E., SUSPENSION BY GSDR OF INTEREST PAYMENTS ON MOGADISCIO WATER LOAN, BASED ON GSDR DISPLEASURE OVER AMELCO IMPASSE AND DISAGREEMENT OVER DISBURSEMENT OF RESIDUAL LOAN APPROPRIATIONS. ADDOU SAID THAT HE CONSIDERED THE AMELCO PROBLEM TO BE BETWEEN GSDR AND A PRIVATE COMPANY WHICH SHOULD BE "SET ASIDE" AND NOT ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH IMPROVEMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE SAID HE WOULD ADVISE GSDR TO RESUME INTEREST PAYMENTS ON WATER LOAN SO AS TO REMOVE THIS REMAINING OBSTACLE. HE SEEMED CONFIDENT THAT GSDR WOULD ACCEPT HIS ADVICE.

3. ADDOU, ACCOMPANIED BY IBRAHIM MEGAG SAMATER, RETURNING TO DEPARTMENT ON JANUARY 30 FOR SEPARATE TALKS WITH MULCAHY AND A.I.D./AFR. WE ANTICIPATE THEY WILL PURSUE ASSISTANCE THEME WITH US. FYI - A.I.D. WILL LISTEN SYMPATHETICALLY TO ANY SOMALI PROPOSALS, AND, ASSUMING WATER LOAN INTEREST PAYMENTS RESUMED, IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER INITIATING SMALL ASSISTANCE PROJECT IN FY 76. END
FYI. KISSINGER
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